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MARCH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL





ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1961.





THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MARCH

Public Health Committee

Chairman - W. L. Shepperson Esq.

Councillors T. H. Ellingham Mrs. D. Fleming

F. Fox

A. E. Morton H. A. Orbell H. W. Papworth

Medical Officer of Health

J. C. Burns, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H. Town Hall, March Telephone: March 2331.

Public Health Inspector

H. Burton, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerical Staff

Miss. J. Band

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MARCH

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1961

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my report for the year 1961, together with a report from the Public Health Inspector.

I wish to record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their interest and support and to my colleagues on the Council's staff for their assistance and co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

J. C. BURNS

Medical Officer of Health.

General Statistics

| Area in acres | • | 19,786 |
|--|---|-----------|
| Population (Registrar General's Estimate for 1961) | • | 13,140 |
| Number of inhabited houses | • | 4,456 |
| Number of houses owned by the Council | • | 872 |
| Rateable Value (at 1st April, 1962) | • | £155,786 |
| Amount represented by ld. rate (1960/61) | | £612.9.5d |

The area of the Urban District remained unchanged at 19,786 acres and the estimated population decreased by 140 to 13,140. The main employment is either industrial, the large railway marshalling yards being situated within the district boundary, or agricultural, the surrounding farm land being rich and fertile.

Vital Statistics

Live Births Number Male 116) Total . 224 Female 108) Rate per 1,000 population . . . 17.04 Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births 4.46 Stillbirths Number Male Total 5 Female Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths. Total Live and Stillbirths (Male Total . 229 (Female Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year) Total Infant Mortality Rates Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births 31.25 Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate 32.71 Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 13.39 Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births). 8.92 Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths) 30.56 Maternal Mortality (including abortion) Number of deaths. Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths.

11.34

Death rate per 1,000 population. . . .

| Cause of Death | Male | Female | Total |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Malignant neoplasm, stomach Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus Malignant neoplasm, uterus | - 5 - | 3 1 2 7 | 3 6 2 7 |
| Malignant neoplasm, breast Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms Leukaemia, aleukaemia Diabetes | 10 | 7 3 1 | 13 1 1 |
| Vascular lesions of nervous system Coronary disease, angina Hypertension with heart disease | 11 14 1 | 11 6 3 | 22 20 4 |
| Other heart diseases Other circulatory diseases Pneumonia Bronchitis | 9 3 7 2 | 11 - 4 1 | 20 3 11 3 |
| Other diseases of respiratory system Ulcer of stomach and duodenum Nephritis and nephrosis | ī 1 | 1 - - | 3 1 1 1 2 |
| Hyperplasia of prostate Congenital malformations Other defined and ill-defined diseases Motor vehicle accidents | 2 1 10 - | 3 6 1 | 4 |
| All other accidents Suicide Homicide and operations of war | 1 1 1 | 2 2 - | 16 1 3 3 |
| | 81 | 68 | 149 |

The following table gives the percentage of deaths in the principal age groups.

| Under 1 year 1 - 5 years 6 - 15 years 16 - 65 years 66 and over | 6.05 0.68 - 26.13 67.14 |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| | 100.00% |

Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases

The following infectious diseases were notified during the year.

| 2 | Whooping Cough Measles Erysipelas Scarlet Fever Tuberculosis - Non Pulmonary Pulmonary | 13 261 2 16 1 |
|---|--|---------------------------|
| | rulmonary | 5 |
| | | |

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Food Hygiene

The Public Health Inspector's report contains the necessary comments on this subject.

Food Posioning

No case of food poisoning was reported during 1961.

National Assistance Act

No action was taken under the above Act during 1961.

Factories Act, 1937 - 1959

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1961 FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MARCH IN THE COUNTY OF THE ISLE OF ELY.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937

PART I OF THE ACT

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provision as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

| Premises | | Number | Number of | | | |
|----------|--|--------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--|
| | | on | Inspections (3) | Written notices (4) | Occupiers prosecuted (5) | |
| (i) | Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 4 | | | | |
| (ii) | Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority | | 11 | | | |
| (iii) | Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) | | | | | |
| | Total | 53 | 11 | - | | |

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be rechoned as two, three or more "cases")

| | Nu | mber of cas | Number of | | |
|---|-------|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Particulars | | | Refe | rred | cases in which prosecutions |
| | Found | Remedied | To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector | were instituted |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| Want of clean- liness (S.1) | | | | | |
| Overcrowding (S.2) | | | | | |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) | | | | | |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4) | | | | | |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) | | | | | |
| Sanitary Con- veniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient | | | | | |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 1 | 1 | | | |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | | | | | |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) | | | | | |
| Total | 1 | 1 | _ | _ | - |

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

| | | Section | 170 | Q | ection 1 | 1 7 |
|--|---|------------------------------------|---|---|----------|--------------------------------|
| of Work | No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c) | No. of cases of default in sending | No. of prosecutions for failure to supply | No. of instances of work in unwhole- | Notices | |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) |
| Vearing) Making | ٦ | | | | | |
| apparel) etc., Clean- ing and Washin | | | | | | |
| Household linen | | | | | | |
| Lace, lace cur- tains and nets | | | | | | |
| Curtains and furniture hang-ings | | | | | | |
| Furniture and upholstery | | | | | | |
| Electro-plate | | | ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, | | | |
| File making | | | | | | |
| 3rass and brass | | | | | | |
| Fur pulling | | | | | | |
| [ron and steel ables & chains | | | | | | |
| ron and Steel anchors and rapnels | | | | | | |
| Cart gear | | | • | ••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••• | | |
| ocks, latches and keys | | | | | | |
| mbrellas etc. | | | ••••• | | | •••••••••••••••••••••••••••••• |
| rtificial lowers | | | | | | |
| ets, other han wire nets | | | | | | |
| ents | | | | | | |
| acks | | | | | | |
| acquet and ennis balls | | | | | | |
| aper bags | | | | | | |
| C/fd | 1 | | | | | |

PART VIII OF THE ACT (CONTD.)

OUTWORE

(Sections 110 and 111)

| | | Section 110 | | Se | ction 1 | 11 |
|---|---|--------------------|-----------|---|---------|---|
| Nature of Work | No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c) | default in sending | to supply | No. of instances of work in unwhole-some premises | | |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) |
| B/fd | 1 | | | | | 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 |
| The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper | | | | | | |
| Brush making | | | Ş | | | |
| Pea picking | | | | | | |
| Feather sorting | | | | | | |
| Carding, etc. of buttons etc. | | | | | | |
| Stuffed toys | | | | | | |
| Basket making | | | | | | |
| Chocolates & sweetmeats | | | | | | |
| Cosaques, Christmas stockings etc. | | | | | | |
| Textile Wearing | | | | | | 700 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 |
| Lampshades | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 1 | | | | | |

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MARCH

Public Health Inspector's Report for the year 1961

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following are details of visits, interviews, inspections and re-inspections carried out in 1961.

| Public Health Act. Nuisances) | |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| Housing Act. Disrepair) | 180 |
| Accumulations | 73 |
| Animals or Birds. | 21 |
| Bakehouses . | ī |
| Cellars - Flooding | |
| Cesspools | 2 8 |
| Common Lodging House | 8 |
| Clean Air | 5 |
| Dairies | 11 |
| Drainage | 82 |
| Food Hygiene | 14 |
| Fried Fish Shops and Stalls | 31 |
| Factories | 11 |
| Food Preparing Premises | 4 |
| General Food Premises. | 18 |
| Ice Cream Premises | 42 |
| Infectious Diseases | i3 |
| Interviews | 276 |
| Knackers Yard | 22 |
| Moveable Dwellings | 43 |
| Meat Shops | 30 |
| Miscellaneous | 10 |
| Overcrowding | |
| Pet Animals Act | 3 |
| Petroleum Spirit | 56 |
| Rats and Mice (including sewers) | 121 |
| Piggeries | 2 |
| Slaughterhouses | 729 |
| Shops Act | 6 |
| Sanitary Accommodation | 8 |
| Vermin. | 50 |
| | |

The following tables show defects found and remedied during the year by action under the various Acts.

1,886

| Sanitary Accommodation and Drains | Defects found | Defects remedied | Outstanding at the end of 1961 |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Defective sanitary accommodation Flooding in back gardens Blocked drains Broken cesspool cover Defective sink Defective water pipe | 4 1 8 1 1 2 | 2 - 8 1 1 2 | 2 1 - - - |
| C/fd. | 17 | 14 | 3 |

| | Defects found | Defects remedied | Outstanding at the end of 1962 |
|--|---|--|---------------------------------|
| B/fd | 17 | 14 | 3 |
| Verminous Infestation | | | |
| Rats and mice Fleas Wasps | 12 2 16 | 11 · 2 16 | 1 - - |
| Housing Defects | | | |
| Defective walls door ceiling roof skirting board fire bars chimney floorboards windows General untidiness Dampness Food Hygiene | 3 3 4 2 2 1 3 1 3 2 2 | 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 2 2 | 2 1 3 - 1 - 1 |
| Smoking in food premises Notice re washing hands Name and address on van Hot water for shop Accumulations | 1 1 1 2 | 1 1 1 1 | - - - - |
| Animals and flies | 2 | 2 | 11-11 |
| | 81 | . 66 | 15 |
| Table of Notices served dur | ing 1961 | | |
| | | Served during 1961 | Complied with by 31.12.61 |
| Public Health and Housing Averb Verb Lett Public Health Act, 1936 S.9 | al er | 25 10 | 24 5 |
| Statutory Noti Prevention of Damage by Pes 1949 (including fleas) | ce | 1 | 1 |
| Verb Food Hygiene Regulations, 1 | | 14 | 14 |
| Verb Factories Act, 1937 | | 4 | 4 |
| Verb | al | 1 | 1 |
| | | 55 | 49 |

HOUSING

It is interesting to note that during 1961 the Council made seven Demolition Orders and four Closing Orders. Eight houses were actually demolished which included some from Demolition Orders made during 1960. Nine of these families were re-housed by the Council during the year. Four Closing Orders were cancelled after the dwellings had been made fit and one acceptance to carry out work was also received.

Two applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received during 1961. One Certificate of Disrepair was issued and no action was taken against the other, the tenant having changed his address after application had been made.

DRAINAGE

The subsidiary sewers are now completed and it is hoped that the encouraging start which has been made on the conversion of vaults and pail closets will be continued. Nevertheless further consideration is being given to this matter and also to certain areas not yet sewered.

WATER SUPPLY

Extensions to the water mains were completed during 1959 and where mains have been laid many new connections have been made to properties.

The following is the information requested by the Ministry: -

- (1) Whether the water supply of the area and of its parts has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. Yes.
- (2) Where there is a piped supply, whether bacteriological examinations have been made of the raw water, and the results of any analysis.

 No samples were taken during the year, but the water is known to be examined at regular intervals by the Water Board.
- (3) The position as to contamination by lead.

 The water is hard and has no plumbo solvent action.
- (4) Action as to contamination.

 There has been no evidence of contamination during the year.
- (5) Particulars of the proportion of dwelling houses and the proportion of population supplied from the public water mains.
 (a) direct to house 88%. (b) by means of stand pipes 10%.

CARAVAN SITES AID CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

The above Act brought into force, as from 29th August, 1960 a new licensing system for caravans. Site licences are issued by each local authority only after planning permission has been obtained and at the end of the year sixteen site licences had been issued under the above Act. In conjunction with other Local Authorities in the Isle of Ely conditions are attached to all site licences for securing satisfactory facilities in relation to sanitary accommodation, fire and other matters.

RAG FLOCK ACT, 1951

Under the above Act, which is enforced by the Council, one registration has been approved, but so far no samples have been taken.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

At present four premises are registered under the above Act and these are subject to inspection by the R.S.P.C.A. and myself.

CLEAN AIR AUT, 1956

Two smoke observations have been taken under the Clean Air Act and in each case these observations were satisfactory.

Three installations have also been approved under the Act.

RATS AND MICE

The refuse dumps are treated regularly and the sewers have been dealt with in accordance with the recommendations laid down by the Ministry. Infestation in the sewers is almost negligible and it has been intimated by letter that test baiting need not be carried out quite so frequently in the future.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Slaughterhouses Act, 1958

The above Act required each Local Authority to review, after consultation with local organisations the existing and probable future requirements of their district for slaughterhouse facilities and the slaughterhouse facilities which are, or are likely to become, available to meet those requirements. Accordingly a report was submitted to the Ministry in which it was recommended that 1st January, 1962 be the appointed date on which the new construction regulations would apply to the Urban District of March and this date has now been accepted.

Three slaughterhouses were licensed during 1961 and the number of animals killed during the year at the three slaughterhouses is as follows:- 7 cows, 9 calves, 796 other bovines, 1161 sheep, 2612 pigs and 133 goats giving a total of 4718, which was slightly below the 1960 total of 5160. In order to inspect these animals a total of 729 visits was required to the three slaughterhouses and this figure includes 111 evening and week-end visits.

Mention must be made here of the consideration received from the slaughtermen and butchers whose co-operation does facilitate the easier working of a system of meat inspection.

Eighteen slaughtermen's licences were issued during 1961.

Condemnations include the following who carcases:- 3 beasts, 4 sheep, 2 calves and 26 pigs - total 35 which, together with a quantity of offal and parts of carcases brings the total weight of meat and offal condemned up to 3 tons 10 cwts. 5 st. 7 lbs. which is an increase on the 1960 figure when the total was 2 tons $18 \text{ cwts. } 11\frac{1}{2} \text{ lbs.}$

Carcases Inspected and Condemned from 1st January, 1961 to 31st December, 1961

| | Cattle Excluding Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs | Horses | |
|--|-----------------------------|-------|--------|-----------------------|------|----------|--|
| Number killed | [.] 796 | 7 | 9 | 1161 | 2612 | - | |
| Number inspected | 796 | 7 | 9 | 1161 | 2612 | _ | |
| All diseases except Tuberculosis | | | | | | | |
| Whole carcases condemned. | 3 | - | 2 | 4 | 26 | _ | |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned. | 22 | - | - | · _ | 23 | - | |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis. | 3.14 | _ | 22,22 | 0.34 | 1.87 | _ | |
| Tuberculosis Only Whole carcases condemned. | _ | - | - | - | _ | - | |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned. | 2 | 1 | | - | 29 | | |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis. | 0.25 | 14.28 | _ | _ | 1.11 | _ | |
| Cysticercosis Carcase of which | | | | | | | |
| some part or organ was condemned. | 2 | _ | - | - | - | _ | |
| Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration. | 2 | | _ | - | - | - | |
| Generalised and totally condemned. | _ | _ | - | - | - | | |

OTHER FOODS

Inspections were made during the year of stocks of other food stuffs and the following were condemned as unfit for human consumption:

| (1) | Miscellaneous | | lbs. | ozs. | , |
|-----|--|--|---|--|---|
| | Lambs liver Lambs hindquarter Ham | | 26 23 12 | - | |
| | | | 61 | | |
| (2) | Tinned Goods | No. of tins | lbs. | ozs. | |
| | Ox Tongue Pork Beef Loaf Chopped Pork Corned Beef Casserole Steak Jellied Veal Luncheon Meat Chopped Ham Pork Tenderloins Cooked Gammon Lambs Tongues Sardines Salmon Pilchards Tomatoes Beetroot Celery Hearts Peas Soup Baked Beans Fruit Rice Fuddings Jam Cream Milk | 1 2 1 4 9 1 3 0 7 2 3 2 1 1 5 2 1 2 7 1 4 65 9 5 2 2 2 | 1 126 1892779 548126 4989 34 | 986112 12 12 12 12 12 14 12 10 12 14 12 10 | |
| | | 220 | 336 | 12 | |
| | | | | | |

All unsound food was voluntarily surrendered and in no case was seizure under the Food and Drugs Act required.

Churn Rinses

During 1961, 15 samples of Churn Rinses have been submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Cambridge. The following are the results:-

| No. of samples taken | Satisfactory | Fairly Satisfactory | Un- satisfactory |
|----------------------|--------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 15 | 13 | - | 2 |

Food Hygiene

The Minister requests that reports of previous years should be amplified to include the following information:-

(1) the number, if available, of food premises in the area by type of business:

| Green grocery | 10 |
|------------------------|----|
| Grocery | 25 |
| Butchers | 18 |
| Fish shops | 12 |
| Bakehouses | 4 |
| Confectionery | 16 |
| Cafes & Restaurants | 5 |
| Mineral Water Premises | 1 |

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In addition there are some 42 licensed premises including clubs.

(2) the number of food premises by type registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, or under Local Acts.

Premises registered for the sale of ice cream - 42
Premises registered for the preparation of meat
pies and sausages - 19
Premises registered for the sale of fish and chips - 11

(3) the number of inspections of registered food premises with informative comment as necessary.

Inspections of registered food premises and other food shops generally (including slaughterhouses) are shown on page 9.

(4) any new educational activity (e.g. inauguration of clean food guilds or lectures on food hygiene) and the progress of established educational activity.

No clean food guilds have been established.

(5) the method of disposal of condemned food.

Where condemnation certificates are issued for tinned food etc., the food is collected and disposed of by the Council. Condemned meat at the slaughterhouses is collected by contractors for processing.

(6) where special examination of a stock or of a consignment of food has been necessary, the total quantity as well as the quantity condemned.

The lists on page 14 show the total weight of food condemned.

(7) reference to the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment etc.,)
Regulations, 1947-1952.

Twenty-six samples of ice cream were taken during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Cambridge. The provisional grading of samples was as follows:-

| Grade 1 | Grade 2 | Grade 3 Grade 4 | Total |
|---------|---------|-----------------|-------|
| 25 | 1 | _ | 26 |

It will be observed that 96% of these samples were classified Grade 1. At the end of the year 42 shops were registered for the sale of ice cream. There is one manufacturer in the area.

No samples of iced lollies were taken during 1961.

(8) reference to the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960.

Some 131 food premises (including shops, slaughterhouses and licensed premises) were inspected during 1961 for compliance with the above Regulations.

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS, 1928 and 1936

Under the above Acts 55 licences were issued for the storage of Petroleum Spirit and 2 for the storage of Calcium Carbide. All these premises were visited and generally found to be in compliance with the Acts. Verbal notices were given where contraventions occurred.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

In circular 1/62 the Minister requests information regarding common lodging houses. There is one registered common lodging house in this district and during 1961, 8 inspections were made of the premises. The premises are generally satisfactorily kept and limewashing is periodically carried out.

In conclusion, I should like to take the opportunity of thanking the Members of the Council and my colleagues on the Staff for their helpful co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. BURTON.

Public Health Inspector.

6th July, 1962.



